MARVEL

#3

DIRECT EDITION

RATED T+

SPURRIER
WALKER
SOBREIRO

EDGE OF VENOMVERSE

EDGE OF VENOMVERSE

GHOST RIDER

WHEN TEENAGE MECHANIC ROBBIE REYES NEEDED MONEY TO BUY HIS LITTLE BROTHER GABE A BETTER FUTURE, HE TRIED TO USE A HAUNTED MUSCLE CAR TO WIN AN ILLEGAL STREET RACE...A MISTAKE HE PAID FOR WITH HIS LIFE! RESURRECTED BY THE EVIL SPIRIT OF HIS UNCLE ELI, ROBBIE MADE A PACT WITH THE SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE TO PUNISH THE WORST CRIMINALS AS...

THE GHOST RIDER

HOWEVER, IT WOULD SEEM THAT ROBBIE'S FOUND HIMSELF ANOTHER CREATURE TO PLAY HOST TO...

SIMON SPURRIER
WRITER

TIGH WALKER
ARTIST

FELIPE SOBREIRO
COLOR ARTIST

VC'S CLAYTON COWLES
LETTERER

FRANCESCO MATTINA
COVER ARTIST

CARLOS LAO
PRODUCTION DESIGN

RON LIM, JOHN LIVESAY & JORDAN BOYD
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

ALLISON STOCK
ASSISTANT EDITOR

DEVIN LEWIS
EDITOR

NICK LOWE
EXECUITVE EDITOR

AXEL ALONSO EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOE QUESADA CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

DAN BUCKLEY PRESIDENT

ALAN FINE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

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MEET DR. *CALVIN ZABO*, A.K.A. *MISTER HYDE*:

SCIENCE BASTARD.

YOU'VE ALL SEEN THE *RAP SHEET*.

THIS PSYCHO'S CHECKED OFF EVERYTHING FROM *MUTAGENIC DRUGS* TO *CHILD EXPERIMENTATION* VIA *KITTEN VIVISECTION*.

TODAY'S HIS DAY IN *COURT*, KIDS, AND *WE* GET TO PLAY *CHAUFFEUR*.

DUE WARNING: TODAY IS GOING TO *SUCK*.

INCRIMINATING *TESTIMONY*, SELLABLE *SECRETS*, VENGEFUL *VICTIMS*...

...PRETTY MUCH EVERY BAD GUY ON THE *PLANET'S* GOT REASON TO NAB THIS EVIL ASS BEFORE HE GETS IN THE DOCK.

FLYING'S TOO *RISKY*. TELEPORTER'S *HACKABLE*...

...SO WE DO THIS THE *OLD-FASHIONED* WAY.

WATCH YOUR *ANGLES*, TAKE NO *CHANCES*, KEEP *MOVING*.

LET'S ROLL!

OOOH. ALL THIS...

S.H.I.E.L.D. PRISONER TRANSPORT CONVOY. HEADING: RIGHT UP #$%&E CREEK.

DO NOT ENTER

...FOR LITTLE OLD *ME?*

PADDLES WILL BE PROVIDED.

CONTACT!

SNIPER! THREE O'CLOCK *HIGH!*

KA-CHK

LOCKING ON!

BOOOOOM

RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE

WELL, THAT DIDN'T TAKE LONG.

WHAT CAN I SAY? I'M AN EXTREMELY POPULAR BIO-SADIST.

TARGET NEUTRALIZED. LOOKED LIKE SOME KINDA MUTANT PARAMILIHEY--

INCOMING! INCOMING!

PEW PEW

DAKKA DAKKA DAKKA

B-DOOOM

OOK OOK OOK

WE GOT SUPER-GANGSTERS IN ARMORED VEHICLES ON OUR SIX--

THE MAGGIA. THEY KNOW MY TESTIMONY WILL RUIN THEM.

--OOK UP THERE! COMIN' OUTTA THE SUN! LAB CHIMPS WITH JETPACKS!

PFT. DRONES. SENT BY MY RIVALS TO STEAL MY SECRETS. LAZY, I CALL IT.

KSSSSS

B

OH, SWEET LORD HELP US--VAMPIRES! ACTUAL DUNE-BUGGY VAMPIRES!

TCH. SO I CHEATED AT CARDS. LEAVE IT TO IMMORTALS TO BEAR A GRUDGE.

UHHH

BOOM

PURPLE Z--?

...AND, UH, SOME SORT OF GROSS PURPLE ZOMBIE GUYS ON SKATEBOARDS...?

BOOM

OHHHHH, I REMEMBER. LAB ACCIDENT, SUMMER OF '08. EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS AND EGGPLANTS. ALL VERY MESSY.

I EXPECT THEY WORSHIP ME AS A GOD OR SOMETHING.

YOU ARE LITERALLY THE WORST CREATURE ALIVE.

...

ALL POINTS--

--FIRE AT WILL!

KEEP THEM *BACK!*

WE CAN HOLD 'EM *OFF* AS LONG AS THEY DON'T GET TOO *CL--*

BOOOM

AAAH! AAAH!

HYDE! COME TASTE MY MANHUGS OF DOOM!

HM. TENTACLED YETI IN A RED MASK?

UH-HUH.

OCTOSQUATCHPOOL.

TH-THAT IS THE NASTIEST SOUNDING HERO NAME EVER.

HE'S NO HERO. JUST ANOTHER ASSASSIN WITH AN EXTREMELY IMPLAUSIBLE BACKSTORY.

I'M SERIOUS, IT SOUNDS LIKE A SEPTIC TANK FOR RETIREMENT HOMES.

HIRED BY THE FAMILIES OF MY VICTIMS, I IMAGINE. NO PRICETAG ON VENGEANCE, SERGEANT.

"I'M AFRAID HE'S GOT YOU OUTGUNNED."

S-SARGE! WE GOTTA ABORT! WE GOT TOO MUCH HEAT OUT HERE!

AAAAH--! WHAT THE HELL NOW?!

MORE.
HEAT.

MMM...

SSSUCH SSSSSIIIN WE SENSSSE.

WHAT *IS* IT?

WHAT'S GOING *ON* OUT THERE?

DELICCCIOUSSSS.

I...

IT'S... IT'S THE *GHOST RIDER.* I THINK. BUT SOMETHING'S DIFF--

GHOST RIDER? *HE'S* NOT PART OF THE PLAN!

EEEEEE--

NOW, LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY--

WAIT--WHAT *PLAN?*

NFF. NOTHING. IT'S IRRELEVANT. JUST A... *HN...*

"...JUST A *FEELING* IN MY BONES."

WHATEVER. LOOK, I'VE READ HIS FILE. GHOST RIDER'S A HERO, I THOUGHT.

HUMAN HOST INFUSED WITH A ***HELLISH SPIRIT,*** CURSED TO PUNISH THE GUILTY AND PROTECT THE INNOCENT. ***THAT*** WHOLE THING.

HRR...?

BIG BOY, HUH?

S.H.I.E.L.D. DUMMY OR FIRE GLOOP MONSTER, I GOT ***KILL-CUDDLES*** FOR YOU ***ALL!***

HE'S A ***GOOD*** GUY. H-HE'S HERE TO ***HELP.***

...RIGHT?

INNOCENTSSS!

THERE! ***SEE?!*** HE ***SAVED*** THEM! HE SAVED MY ***MEN*** FR--

AAAAAAAAAAH!!!

AAAAAAAAAAH!!!

THE END

AH.

HAHAHAHAHAHA!

THAT BLACK GOOP...LIKE THE FIELD REPORTS ON THAT SPIDER GUY WHO DIED IN THE EIGHTIES...

...BUT... THAT STUFF WAS VULNERABLE TO FIRE, S-SO HOW COULD...?

HEY, NO, LEMME GO! LEMME G--

THEY'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAMN STREE--

CRASH

UFF, I THINK I'M GETTING A MIGRAINE.

SHUDDUP! THAT THING'S STILL OUT TH--

BOO.

M-MR. *RIDER*, SIR, UM, ON BEHALF OF S.H.I.E.L.D., I WANT TO *THANK YOU* FOR DEFEATING OCTOSQUATCHPOOL--

SSSS...THAT'S A *REPUGNANT* NAME.

I *KNOW*, RIGHT?! *ALSO*, UH, F-FOR SECURING THE *CAPTIVE*. I'M SURE YOU DIDN'T *MEAN* TO CONCUSS MY MEN LIKE THAT, BUT--

SSSILENCE! BE STILL AND BE *TASTED!*

H-H-H-H-H-H--

PIXATIONS ON *JUSSSTICE*... MORAL *BALANCE*... BASIC HUMAN *GOODNESS*...

DISGUSSSTING.

UHHHH...

...W-WHAT *ARE* YOU?

SSSS...ONCCCE UPON A TIME, THERE WASSS A *BOY*--ROBBIE *REYES*--WHO WAS POSSESSSSSED BY A *FIEND*.

IN HIS *LIMITED* LITTLE WAY, HE WORKED *WITH* THE PARASITE. HE *SSERVED* THE *GREATER GOOD*.

UNTIL? OF ALL THE LUCK...

"...A *SSSECOND* FIEND FOUND HIM.

"DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'SSS *LIKE*, DOCTOR, TO BE AT *WAR* WITH *YOURSSSELF*? ONE PART SHRIEKING FROM THE FLAMES... ANOTHER STIFLED BENEATH SSSTARBORN SSSKIN?

"THE *TORMENT*...OH! THE *WAVESSS* OF PAIN AND AMBITION, SSSSMASHING INSSSSIDE A HUMAN *SSSKULL*.

"VENGBANCCCE...HHHUNGER... FREE WILL...*HNN*... *JUSSSSTICE*...

"THE *ALIEN* AND THE *INFERNAL*...THE *HHHUMAN* AND THE *HHHHORROR*...

"WHAT EMERGED--THIS *SSSCARRED SSSOUL*...THIS *MAD MIND*--IF IT *MUST* HAVE A NAME?"

WE ARE THE HOST RIDER.

HUH. YOU DON'T SSSMELL AFRAID. WHY, WE WONDER?

HEH. BECAUSE I HAVE AN *ACE CARD*, CAPTAIN CREEPY.

YOU DON'T GET TO BE PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF THE *VILLAINY CIRCUIT* WITHOUT THINKING AHEAD. YOU'RE ABOUT TO *DIE*, PAL.

I JUST HAVE A--HA--A *FEELING IN MY BONES.*

AH. YOU'RE REFERRING TO THE DEAL YOU MADE WITH THE *MERCENARY* KNOWN AS *CROSSBONESSS.*

WH-WH-WH...

"YOU *KNEW* THAT SSSOONER OR LATER YOU'D BE TAKEN TO *COURT.*

"YOU HIRED HIM TO SSSPREAD THE *WORD* AMONG YOUR *ENEMIESSS.*

"TO SSSOW *CHAOSSS* AND *DISSSCORD.* TO *DISSSRUPT* YOUR *ESSCORT...*

"...AND *THEN,* AT THE CRITICAL MOMENT?"

MUTE

MUTE

MUTE

MUTE

TO SSSSSWOOP IN AND *RESSSCUE* YOU.

H-H-HOW DO YOU KN--?

YOUR *PRINCE CHARMING* ISSSN'T COMING, DOCTOR.

HOW DO YOU THINK WE FOUND YOU?

N... NN...

YOU LIKE THE CAR...? SSSSS...

IT IS A THING OF SSSIMPLE APPETITESS. AN EXPRESSION OF THE BASSSEST PARTS OF THIS EXQUISITE ALLIANCE.

THE UNEARTHLY AND THE UNHOLY.

THERE IS A FRIGHTENING EFFICIENCY TO BE DISSSCOVERED, DOCTOR--

--WHEN PARASITES UNITE AGAINST A HOST.

NO WEAKNESS TO FLAME WHEN ONE *BECOMES* IT! NO SUFFOCATION WHEN ONE'S SHROUD *BURNS FREELY!*

POOR *ROBBIE REYES.* IN THE END, WE FOUND WE BARELY *NEEDED* HIM.

THREE'S A CROWD, AS THEY SSSSAY.

OHHH, WE KEEP HIM AROUND--FOR *OLD TIME'S SSSAKE.* IT'S USSSEFUL TO HAVE A *BACKBONE* ONCE IN A WHILE.

D-DON'T KILL *INNOCENTS...PLEASE...* DON'T KILL THE *INNOCENTS...*

BUT WHO WANTSSS A *WILLFUL ENGINE,* HM? BETTER TO LET HIM HAVE HIS *LITTLE* WAY. HIS *FANTASSSIES* OF NOBILITY...

...AND LEAVE THE *DRIVING* TO THE *DRIVERSSS.*

YOU KNOW... *MOSSST* OF THE TIME...HE'S NO NOURISHMENT AT *ALL...*

...BUT *SSOMETIMES?* SOMETIMES HE HAS *NIGHTMARESS.* DARK, *DIRTY* THOUGHTSSS.

DELICIOUSSSS...

WE HAVE COME TO EAT YOUR *SSSSIN.*

WH...WHAT DO YOU *MEAN,* "*NOURISHMENT*"?

HAHAHAHA. EVERY TRAVELER MUSSST HAVE *FUEL,* DOCTOR.

THE CAR NEEDS ONLY FLESH, BUT *WE...?* SSSS...TWO FIENDS IN HARMONY...WE HAVE MORE *REFINED* TASTES.

AAAA

HRN. YOU LOOK LIKE YOU DIDN'T *ENJOY* THE *PENANCE KISSS...?*

THAT'SS *HURTFUL*, DOCTOR. WE DON'T PUT OUT FOR JUSSST *ANYONE...*

...BUT IT'SSSS FINE. WE'VE NEVER BEEN ONE TO OVERSSTEP THE MARK ON A FIRSST DATE. WE HAVE SSSCRUPLESS.

PLEASSSE...

...WON'T YOU LET USSS DRIVE YOU *HOME?*

-HNK- WAIT. WH. WHAT'SSSS...

WHAT'SSS *HAAAAPPENING?!*

HRR...

WH...WHERE *ARE* WE? AND WHAT HORROR MUST WE UNLEASH ON WHOEVER HAS *DARED* ABDUCT US?

HEH...

ASK NOT WHAT YOUR SYMBIOTE CAN DO FOR *YOU*, SOLDIER...

...BUT WHAT *YOU* CAN DO FOR YOUR *SYMBIOTE.*

TO BE CONTINUED IN *VENOMVERSE!*

VENOMVERSE

EDGE OF VENOMVERSE

JUNE

- [x] EDGE OF VENOMVERSE #1

JULY

- [x] EDGE OF VENOMVERSE #2
- [x] EDGE OF VENOMVERSE #3

AUGUST

- [ ] EDGE OF VENOMVERSE #4
- [ ] EDGE OF VENOMVERSE #5

VENOMVERSE

SEPTEMBER

- [ ] VENOMVERSE: WAR STORIES #1
- [ ] VENOMVERSE #1
- [ ] VENOMVERSE #2
- [ ] VENOMVERSE #3
- [ ] VENOMVERSE #4

OCTOBER

- [ ] VENOMVERSE #5

ZONE